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**ODOMETER
FRAUD**



Jesse White
Illinois Secretary of State

Illinois law prohibits odometer tampering and requires accuracy of its odometer reading. All sellers of a vehicle as well as car dealers.

Odometer Certification

Chapter 625 ILCS 5/3-112.1

Illinois law requires mileage disclosure for all vehicles, except vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of more than 16,000 pounds, vehicles 10 years old or older, vehicles that are not self-propelled and vehicles manufactured without an odometer.

The seller must complete the Certificate of Title, including the following information:

- Odometer reading at the time of the sale/transfer
- Date of the sale/transfer
- Seller's printed name and signature
- Purchaser's printed name, address and signature

Purchasing from a Dealer

An Illinois licensed vehicle dealer must provide:

- Bill of sale
- Odometer statement
- Copy of Illinois Tax Form

Inspect Vehicle

- Make sure odometer progresses properly.
- Check brakes, steering, alignment and acceleration.
- Inspect tires — low-mileage vehicles typically have the original tires.
- Check batteries, hoses, clamps and belts.
- Look for excessive interior wear: seats, floor mats and brake pedal.

anyone who sells a motor vehicle to disclose the vehicle are subject to the law — private citizens as

Used Car Buying Tips

- Have a qualified mechanic examine the vehicle. This may help avoid unexpected repair costs.
- Never sign blank documents. An unscrupulous dealer may complete the document to his benefit only.
- Review the title. The vehicle's current mileage should be greater than the mileage shown on the title. Alterations or eraser marks invalidate the title. NEVER purchase a vehicle with an altered title. If the dealer does not have the title, do not purchase the vehicle until a title is provided.

What You Should Know

- Make sure the seller's identification matches the name on the title.
- Check the meeting location to be sure it is a permanent location, not a temporary meeting place.
- Verify the telephone number of the seller. Unlisted numbers or pager numbers are difficult to trace should problems arise with the vehicle.
- Determine the reason the vehicle is being sold: family financial hardship, fast cash, mechanical problems.
- Verify that the issue date on the title coincides with the seller's reason for disposing of the vehicle.
- Pay attention to the seller's story. Inconsistencies often indicate illegal sales.
- Compare the vehicle to a similar model from another seller.

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF ODOMETER FRAUD

- Contact an attorney to discuss your options involving the person responsible for the fraud.
- According to Illinois law (Chapter 625 ILCS 5/3-112.1), a person may be awarded \$1,500 or three times the amount of damages plus court costs and attorney fees in fraud cases.
- Secretary of State Police can investigate a criminal complaint filed against a person accused of fraudulent practices.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

ISSP District #1

103 W. Roosevelt Rd. • Villa Park, IL 60181
630-693-0551

ISSP District #2

4615 E. State St., Ste. 101 • Rockford, IL 61108
815-484-8100

ISSP District #3

3650 Winchester Rd. • Springfield, IL 62707
217-785-5486

ISSP District #4

220 S. 12th St. • Mt. Vernon, IL 62864
618-244-8343

ISSP District #4A

400 W. Main St. • Belleville, IL 62220
618-236-8765

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June 2009 — 3M — SOS DOP-123.10



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